IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 1609

International Court of Justice

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B e s t ä t i g u n g

Ich bestätige hiermit, dass das anliegende Dokument, bestehend aus 6 maschinengeschriebenen Seiten , bezeichnet: " Auszug aus dem Protokoll des Kriegsverbrecher-Gerichts,Oslo, Fall M.T.B. 345 " eine wortgetreue Abschrift aus dem Original ist, das mir von der Britischen Delegation beim I.M.T. zur Verfügung gestellt wurde.

Kraus Lüdden

Flottenrichter

C e r t i f i c a t e

I hereby certify that the attached document consisting of 6 type-written pages entitled: " Extract of Proceedings of War Crime Trial, Oslo, Case M.T.B. 345 " is a true copy of the original which the British Delegation to the I.M.T. made available to me.

Kraus Lüdden

Naval Judge

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
Doenitz Exhibit 107
Filed July 2, 1946

A u s z u g

aus dem Protokoll des Kriegsverbrecher-Gerichts, Oslo,
Fall M T B 345

Band I:
Seite 11a/11b:

I, FRITZ KARL PIETZNER, Oberleutnant, whose former home address was LEIPZIG but now of Kattenfenne, Westphalen, make oath and say as follows:

1. From February 1943 until April 1945 I was Adjutant of Küsten-Sicherungs-Verband (K.S.V.) whose Headquarters were at EIDSVAAG near BERGEN.

.....

3. One day in the summer of 1943 but I cannot remember the exact date a wireless message was received by K.S.V. EIDSVAAG from Ship VP 5301 which was at that time on patrol in the SOGN-ASKVOLL-FLORÖ district. This message was to the effect that VP 5301 had spotted a British M.T.B. lurking off one of the islands. The position of the M.T.B. was given and the message stated that VP 5301 was going in to attack. I read this message when it came in.

.....

5. A short time afterwards between 2 and 3 o'clock the same afternoon I received a wireless message from VP 5301 to K.S.V. to the effect that the British M.T.B. had been captured, that although the crew had tried to set fire to the M.T.B. the fire had been put out and that the crew had been taken prisoner.

.....

7. Very shortly after this a wireless message sent by Admiral von SCHRADER himself to Marine Oberkommando (MOK) OSLO was picked up by the wireless station at K.S.V. EIDSVAAG. I saw this message. It was a normal immediate battle report which had to be sent to MOK immediately after an action in accordance with standing orders. These immediate battle reports had to give date,hour, place, enemy, result of action, enemy losses and own losses. I do not remember the exact contents of the message picked up from the Admiral to MOK but it was to the effect that an English M.T.B. had been captured by a German vessel and that the crew had been taken prisoner.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
Doenitz Exhibit 107
Filed July 2, 1946

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Band I:
Seite 11e-11g:

I, GEORG ADRIAN WILDEMAN, Kapitän zur See of the Naval Reserve, home address WIESBADEN, Humboldstr.11, make oath and say as follows:

1. In the summer of 1943, I was operations officer on the staff of Admiral von SCHRADER, Admiral West Coast. In the course of my duty I controlled all the shipping on the WEst Coast of NORWAY.

.....

5. I did not hear any more of what happened until von SCHRADER returned sometime after midnight. .....
He described the action, as far as I remember as follows:
.....
When the prisoners were brought down by the landing party it was seen that 2 or 3 of the men were wearing civilian clothes. He had examined the boat and found that it was fit to move and its torpedoes were armed. In the boat were found civilian clothes, maps to the Swedish border printed on silk, small hack-saw blades, magnetic charges for placing on ships sides, printed forms for shipping and plane movement reports with instructions for filling in by agents, secret books, the log book and maps with courses not re erased and daily dated positions shown. These courses in one case had led to URTER where some months earlier a ship had been sunk near KOPPERVIK by a sabotage party and when the party was captured they had said as I know that they had been brought over by an M.T.B. The date marked against the position corresponded to the period of the attack on the ship near KOPPERVIK. The prisoners taken from the M.T.B. which was numbered 345 were sent by " S" boat to BERGEN. Von SCHRADER gave orders that the prisoners were to be sent immediately to See Kommandant, they were to be handed over to Abwehr and after that to the S.D. Because of the things found on the M.T.B. such as civilian clothes he was convinced that the crew were saboteurs and should be handed over to the S.D.

.....

7. At this period Admiral von SCHRADER was under " Admiral Norwegen" Admiral CILIAX, but I believe at the time of the capture of the M.T.B. CILIAX was away from OSLO and von SCHRADER was acting for him. If Admiral CILIAX was away at this time Admiral von SCHRADER was directly under Generaloberst von FALKENHORST's action (C in C NORWAY).

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Band I:
Seite 23/24:

I, JOHAN ARNDT formerly Hauptscharführer in die Sicherheitspolizei, whose home is in BOCHUM, GERMANY, make oath and say as follows:

.....

7. The interrogation started very soon after we arrived at ULVEN and went on until the evening. I saw the prisoners one at a time. I saw the Lieutenant first and interrogated him for two or three hours. .....

.....

9. The Lieutenant told me about the armament of the boat, the weapons it carried and something of what they had been doing as the boat itself and the ships had been captured. He would not give any details of future operations. He said that their task was to lay mines, make torpedo attacks on shipping and carry out sabotage against ships.

10. They had taken two letters from Norwegians for delivery to England. They had been in touch with two civilians on the island of INDEREN.

Band I:
Seite 49-52:

I, KARL LEIB, formerly Obersturmbannführer of the WAffen S.S. whose home address was BRAUNSCHWEIG make oath and say as follows:

.....

7. ..... I studied the documents carefully at the time and except where I have stated otherwise I can remember the contents clearly. The wording of the documents as far as I can remember is as stated below. I do not remember the exact date of the various messages but they were all in the last 10 days of July 1943.

(a) An original teleprint message as follows

" To B.D.S.
From K,D.S. BERGEN
K.D.S.BERGEN reports the capture of a British Commando of a strength of 5(?) men landed from an M.T.B. "

(b) A sheet of paper containing notes in TERBOVEN!s handwriting. It was a note of a conversation

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between TERBOVEN and Oberführer FEHLIS (B.D.S.) Head of the Sicherheitspoliezei. From what I can remember of these notes it was decided in the conversation to communicate with the Führer's Headquarters.

(c) A teleprint message form signed by TERBOVEN at the foot of which appeared an entry by the telegraphist that it had been despatched by a teleprinter at a certain date and hour which I do not remember. The message was as follows:

" To Führer Headquarters
From Reichs Kommissar NORWAY.
K.D.S.BERGEN reports the capture of a British Commando of 5(?) landed from a British M.T.B. I propose that the members of this Commando should not be treated as normal prisoners of war but as partisans and that the matter should be dealt with by the Sicherheitspolizei. I ask for further instructions.

TERBOVEN " .

(d) An original teleprint message as follows:

" To: Reichscommissar TERBOVEN
From Führer's Headquarters.

The Führer agrees to your proposal. Instructions in accordance with this have been sent to Wehrmacht Headquarters, NORWAY.

KEITEL " .

On this message was a note in red pencil in TERBOVEN's handwriting " To be handed to B.D.S. to see and for action. T " .

(e) A sheet of paper fastened to the teleprint message specified in sub paragraph (d) above containing notes in TERBOVEN's handwriting. I cannot remember the full contents of these notes. They related to a conversation about the handing of the prisoners by the Wehrmacht to the Sicherheitspolizei. I remember that Generaloberst FALKENHORST's name was mentioned several times in the notes.

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(f) A telprint message signed by FEHLIS. I have seen FEHLIS's handwriting often and I know it well. I can remember the sense of the message which was as follows although I cannot be sure of the wording.

" To K.D.S.
From B.D.S.
According to proposal of the Reichkommissar the Führer has ordered that the crew of the British M.T.B. captured by German forces are not to be treated as normal prisoners of war. Their delivery to K.D.S. BERGEN has been arranged. Report when execution has been carried out.

FEHLIS "

(g) An original teleprint message as follows:

" To B.D.S. x)
From K.D.S. BERGEN.
xx)

Reporting that your order of (?) July 1943 has been carried out.

BLOMBERG "

.....

x) B.D.S. = Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei
xx) K.D.S. = Kommandeur der Sicherheitspolizei.

Band I:
Seite 66/67:

I, HANS WILHELM BLOMBERG, formerly Obersturmbannführer and Kommandeur der Sicherheitspolizei, living at Haynstrasse 32, HAMBURG, having been duly cautioned, make oath and say as follows:

.....

8. In the meantime, Admiral von SCHRADER according to what he told me, negotiated several times by telephone with Generaloberst von FALKENHORST as to whether the men were definitely to be treated as pirates or not. From my office I myself had telephone calls with the Sicherheitspolizei at OSLO (as far as I can remember with KELLER) and I also spoke to Obergruppenführer REDIESS.The result of my telephone calls was that the men were pirates and that the execution was to take place at 6 o'clock that morning. .....

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Band II.

2. Tag:

Seite 20:

The Accused BLOMBERG takes his stand at the place from which the other witnesses have given their evidence, and having been duly sworn, is examined through the interpreter by Capt. IRVING as follows:

Q. Is your name Hans Wilhelm Blomberg ? A. Yes.
Q. Were you formerly Obersturmbannführer ? A. Yes.
Q. And Kommandeur of the Sicherheitspolizei at Bergen ? A. Yes.

.....

Seite 24:

Cross examined by Major STEEL.

.....

Seite 25:

Q. I am asking what you knew on the 29/30 July. On those dates did you know anything which those men had done which would justify them being shot. A.: Officially I did not know anything of this, but I had heard by Admiral von Schrader that the people when they were captured were on land, had come into touch with civilians, and out of the interrogation I knew that they had special apparatus on board in order to blow up factories and to commit other acts of sabotage; that they did not fly a flag, and that they belonged to the Norwegian MTB Flotilla, who, according to the order of the Führer, had orders from their superior officers to carry out sabotage.

.....

Q. In the case of the seven men from this MTB, was any sort or kind of trial held ? A.: I do not know of it, because the decision had fallen in Oslo between Terboven, Reidiess, Falkenhorst, and the Führer.

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